

LR83.5 Bar Admission

(a) Admission to Practice Generally

(1) Qualifications. It shall be required to practice generally in this Court that an applicant be currently admitted to practice in the highest court of a state, territory, or the District of Columbia, and that the applicant appear to the Court to be of good moral and professional character.

(2) Application. Each applicant shall file with the Clerk (1) an executed copy of the application approved by the Court and furnished by the Clerk containing (i) the applicant's personal statement and (ii) the statement of two sponsors (who must be members of the bar of this Court and must personally know, but not be related to, the applicant) endorsing the correctness of the applicant's statement, stating that the applicant possesses all the qualifications required for admission and affirming that the applicant is of good moral and professional character and (2) if admitted in a state other than Tennessee, the applicant shall also attach a certificate not more than 30 days old from the presiding judge, clerk, or other duly authorized official of the proper court evidencing the applicant's admission to practice there and current good standing. Each applicant shall pay an application fee to the Clerk, which is NOT refundable.

(3) Processing of Applications. All applications for admission to practice in this Court shall be transmitted by the Clerk to a Standing Committee on Admissions, which reviews the qualifications of applicants and reports to the Court. Applicants so certified may be admitted on motion of a member of the federal bar in open court or in chambers. The Clerk will provide a successful applicant with a certificate of admission.

(4) Hearings. At the discretion of the Court, the Court may order an appropriate hearing regarding any applicant for admission or reinstatement. Regarding applications for initial admission, the Court will first submit the application to a committee composed of members of the Tennessee bar, not necessarily from a local bar association, and obtain their recommendation concerning the applicant. The Court may schedule a hearing following the committee's recommendation. At the discretion of the Court, the Court may submit applications for reinstatement to a committee composed of members of the Tennessee bar and obtain their recommendation concerning the applicant.

Admission will be based (to the extent applicable) upon standards contained in the Rules of Professional Conduct and the Rules of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. However, this Court will *not* be bound by any decision of the Tennessee courts, the Board of Professional Responsibility, or the committee, regarding an applicant for admission or reinstatement before this Court.

(5) Oath. An attorney admitted to practice shall take and sign an oath or affirmation as prescribed by Rule 5 of the Supreme Court of the United States. If a lawyer so admitted fails to take and sign the oath or affirmation as herein directed within one year of admission, that

lawyer's application shall be deemed withdrawn.

(6) Effect. This admission shall entitle an attorney to practice in this Court while and so long as he or she **remains in good standing in this Court and is** entitled to practice in the court of the state, territory, or District of Columbia identified on the attorney's application for admission.

(b) Admission Pro Hac Vice and Special Admission for Certain Attorneys

(1) Admission Pro Hac Vice - Reciprocity With Other Districts. Upon motion, attorneys who are members in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a state, territory or the District of Columbia and who are admitted to and entitled to practice in another United States District Court may be permitted to practice specially in this district *pro hac vice* in a particular case, provided (i) it is certified by the clerk or other duly authorized official that the attorney is a member in good standing of the state, territory or the District of Columbia bar, and (ii) it is certified by the presiding judge or clerk of the other district court that the attorney is a member in good standing of that court's bar. Said certificates must be no more than 30 days old and should be filed with the motion for admission *pro hac vice*. If the motion is not filed contemporaneously with the first pleading, it **must** be filed, and the motion granted, before the attorney proceeds further in the case. Attorneys desiring to appear *pro hac vice* shall pay a fee of \$60.00 upon filing of such motion.

(2) Admission Pro Hac Vice – Pending Application for Admission. Attorneys who are not admitted to the bar of another United States District Court and who have an application pending under ¶ (a)(2) above may be admitted *pro hac vice* upon proper motion without payment of a fee, provided they file an affidavit of their application for admission to the bar of this Court and a certificate of good standing not more than 30 days old from the highest court of a state, territory, or the District of Columbia.

(3) Special Admission for Certain Attorneys. Attorneys who are members in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a state or any other district court, and are employed by the United States Government or Federal Defender Services as an attorney, may appear in particular cases without either an application for admission as set forth in ¶ (a)(2), or the filing of a motion to practice *pro hac vice* as set forth in ¶ (b)(1).

(c) Duty to Report. Attorneys admitted to practice in this Court generally, *pro hac vice*, or specially under paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall report to the Clerk, in writing, **within 7 days of the initiation of disciplinary action against the attorney** ~~any suspension or disbarment from the practice of law~~ by the state in which he or she is a member, or by any court of record. **Failure to make such a report within the allotted time will subject the attorney to disciplinary action in this Court.**